



# COUNTY OF YOLO

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## **\$1.7 Million Grant Funds Crisis Triage**

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Department of Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health has been awarded the first of the grants available under Senate Bill 82 (Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013). The \$1.7 million grant over four years is monitored by the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission and will fund crisis triage personnel. Yolo County’s proposal received the highest score statewide with 960 points out of a possible 1,000.

The Yolo County Department of Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health submitted its response to this grant opportunity with a proposal to fund crisis personnel, including clinicians and peer counselors providing services in the community. Yolo County proposes to put in place clinical staff to accompany law enforcement on crisis calls and peer counselors throughout the community to provide support following a crisis, including assistance engaging in a crisis plan, navigating the system of services and supporting recovery needs.

“These services are designed to assist consumers experiencing mental health crisis to stabilize without having to be hospitalized,” said Mark Bryan, acting Yolo County mental health director. “Nonetheless, hospitalization will remain as a resource if the consumer needs that level of care.”

Yolo County will track the number of individuals who experience repeated crisis events to demonstrate an anticipated reduction in frequent or repetitive use of the emergency room, hospital or jail services. A decrease in per-person cost of services is also anticipated.

“This funding will help us support Yolo County residents in mental health crisis and those in the field who respond,” said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Don Saylor. “On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, I am so proud of the excellent collaborative process that resulted in such a highly scored grant application.”

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